

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 01784 101305Z

50/70

ACTION IO-14

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PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 SAJ-01 SAM-01

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 1784

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (P A R A N U M B E R I N G)

EO 11652GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN VN VS CB SG

SUBJ: PRG AND KHMER ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

REF: STATE 62535

1. SUMMARY: SENEGAL NOW RATHER FIRMLY COMMITTED TO BOTH PRG AND GRUNK AND UNLIKELY TO HELP KEEP THEM OUT OF INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS. EMBASSY CONSIDERS FAULT LIES LARGELY IN HALF-HEARTED PAST EFFORTS BY GVN, AND BY EXTENSION ISRAEL AND SOUTH KOREA, TO WEAKEN POSITION THEIR OPPONENTS IN SUCH AFRICAN COUNTRIES AS THIS. END SUMMARY.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, SENEGAL HAS LED LARGELY SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL FIGHT TO SEAT SIHANOUK'S GRUNK AT ANY AND ALL WORLD GATHERINGS AND ORGANIZATIONS. SENGHOR PERSONALLY SENT LETTERS TO MOST AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE URGING SIMILAR RECOGNITION. A FEW DAYS AGO SIHANOUK'S AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL (AND HIS NOMINAL MINISTER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS) CHAN YOURAN BOASTED
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PAGE 02 DAKAR 01784 101305Z

PUBLICLY IN DAKAR THAT NO REPRESENTATIVE OF LON NOL

GOVERNMENT REMAINS ON AFRICAN CONTINENT, A STATEMENT WHOSE ACCURACY WE CANNOT MEASURE FROM HERE. IN SHORT, WHERE SENEGAL AND, WE SUSPECT, MANY OF ITS NEIGHBORS ARE CONCERNED, KHMER REPUBLIC IS LOST CAUSE.

3. WITH RESPECT TO PRG, SENEGAL LAST YEAR TOOK WHAT WAS IN OUR VIEW UNWISE AND UNREALISTIC STEP OF RECOGNIZING PRG, AT TIME WHEN GVN HAD RESIDENT CHARGE HERE (DESPITE URGING OVER TWO-YEAR PERIOD BY OUR EMBASSY THAT GVN SEND RESIDENT AMBASSADOR). AS RESULT THIS STEP, AND CONTRARY STRONG URGINGS GVN CHARGE HERE AND AMEMBASSY SAIGON, GVN, APPARENTLY AT HIGHEST LEVEL, DECIDED TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH SENEGAL. GVN CHARGE ACCORDINGLY DEPARTED IN SUMMER.

4. PRG CHARGE, PREVIOUSLY RESIDENT ALGIERS, ARRIVED HERE TO STAY IN MID-DECEMBER, FOLLOWED BY PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS OF NON-RESIDENT PRG AMBASSADOR. WE EMPHASIZE THAT IT WAS FOND IF SOMEWHAT NAIVE GOS HOPE SENEGAL COULD MAINTAIN FRIENDLY FORMAL RELATIONS WITH BOTH GVN AND PRG. IT WAS GVN, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, THAT FLED THE FIELD. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT SEEMS HIGHLY UNLIKELY GOS WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO ADVICE FROM USG THAT IT SHOULD TAKE POSITION AGAINST SEATING PRG AT ANY INTERNATIONAL GATHERING.

5. FINALLY, SINCE FROM OUR LIMITED PERSPECTIVE HERE WE SEE A PATTERN IN THESE DEVELOPMENTS, CASES OF TWO KOREAS AND ISRAEL, ARE WORTH CITING. SOUTH KOREA REPRESENTED HERE IN ONE-MAN EMBASSY WITH RESIDENT CHARGE, WHILE NORTH KOREA HAS RESIDENT AMBASSADOR, WITH UBIQUITOUS STAFF OF EIGHT OR NINE. EMBASSY AND ROK CHARGE HAVE OFTEN URGED THAT ROK CONSIDER PLACING RESIDENT AMBASSADOR HERE. WHEN CRUNCH COMES IN FUTURE OVER SOME KOREAN ISSUE, UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES NORTH KOREA PROBABLY WILL CARRY GREATER WEIGHT WITH GOS, THOUGH NEITHER HAS DONE MUCH IN AID FIELD. INCIDENTALLY, SENGHOR WILL VISIT PYONGYANG THIS SPRIN.

6. IN CASE OF ISRAEL, GOS BROKE RELATIONS ALONG WITH
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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DAKAR 01784 101305Z

REST OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES, ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY. WE HAVE HAD INKLINGS GOS WOULD NOT BE ADVERSE TO SOME FOR UNOFFICIAL ISRAEL PRESENCE HERE, PERHAPS TRADE OR OTHER REPRESENTATIVE THROUGH WHOM TWO GOVTS COULD REMAIN IN CONTACT ON AT LEAST DISCREET AND INFORMAL LEVEL (DAKAR 1229). AN ISRAEL FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY DISMISSED THIS AS SIMPLY AFRICAN EFFORT TO PUT PRESSURE ON ARABS OVER OIL PRICES (TEL AVIV 1490), AND INDICATED

GOI NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN ANY SUCH APPROACH.

7. IN SUM WE WONDER WHETHER OUR FRIENDS SHOULD NOT
BE ONES TO MAKE MAJOR EFFORT, OR AT LEAST CREDITABLE ONE, WITH
THE AFRICANS TO KEEP THEIR OPPONENTS OUT OF THE
SORT OF ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN REFTEL. TOO OFTEN,
THESE FRIENDS SEEM HAVE WRITTEN OFF AFRICAN COUNTRIES
FOR VARIOUS PAROCHIAL REASONS (PRIDE, DOMINO THEORY,
OR WHATEVER). WHILE WE WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EVERY
OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT US POSITION, WE CANNOT
REALISTICALLY PREDICT CHANGE IN SENEGALESE POSITION.
AGGREY

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